

Senator Catherine Osten
Senator Paul Formica
Representative Toni Walker
Appropriations Committee
State of Connecticut

February 21, 2017

Dear Senators Osten and Formica and Representative Walker:

I am writing to you to defend the state funding of the ACES Educational Center for the Arts, an organization that I believe is indispensable to New Haven county. I am a former instructor of the creative writing department and an alumni of the theater department. I have been a screenwriter with credits on two produced films.

Currently, I am a teacher of History at New Haven Academy. Several of my students there attend ACES ECA in the afternoon. What ECA gives these students is great confidence in their abilities as well as a social world of other young people with similar interests. ECA is where artistically minded young people get to try out their craft and where they make lifelong friends from their high school years.

For those who become artists, ECA is a stepping stone in that journey. For those who do not, ECA provides them with lifelong skills of concentration, discipline and outside-of-the-box thinking that will help them in all of their endeavors.

Sincerely,

Saul Fussiner
97 Putnam Ave.
Hamden, CT 06517